

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. James R. Crawford on June 18, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Jen 8/15/07
In claim ⁴⁰ 1, lines 1 and 2, the phrase "for use in the diluted state as a bath for the currentless coppering or bronzing of metallic objects" has been deleted.

In claim 51, line 1, the phrase "further comprising iron" has been inserted between the number "48" and the comma.

In claim 52, line 1, the phrase "further comprising iron" has been inserted between the number "48" and the comma.

Reasons For Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: This application teaches an aqueous composition comprising water, copper hydroxycarbonate, a copper complex-forming agent and at least one complexed water-soluble or water-dispersible copper complex formed by complexing of the copper complex-forming agent and a copper ion from the copper hydroxycarbonate. The closest prior art or record is DE 19918833 and US Patent No. 4,303,443, issued to